

“ Malewoon in Tenasserim, and Captain BINGHAM informs me that he thinks he once saw it in the Thoungyeen Valley.

“ It has been known to occur at Malacca, in Borneo, and in New Guinea.

“ This species is probably crepuscular in its habits ; and if this is the case its apparent scarcity is accounted for. An allied species in Africa feeds on bats.

“ This Hawk has a remarkably narrow carinated bill, large eyes, a very wide gape and an elongated occipital crest.”

The Johor specimen is about 18 inches in length, and its general colour is dark amber brown, almost black in parts ; the throat and upper breast are white.

This is the only specimen of this bird in the Raffles Museum.

H. J. K.

A LARGE BEETLE CAUGHT IN A PITCHER OF NEPENTHES.

The greater number of the insects which find their death in the pitchers of the pitcher plant (*Nepenthes*) are very small, such as ants, small cockroaches and flies, and I do not think that any insect has been found fairly entrapped as big as a beetle which I found recently in a pitcher of the beautiful *Nepenthes sanguinea* on the very summit of Gunong Ledang, commonly known as Mount Ophir. This was a female of the brown stag-beetle, *Odontolabris gazella*, 2 inches in length and 1 across the body, exclusive of the spread of its legs. It was quite dead and floating flat in the water contained in the pitcher, which was one of very large size.

THE BIRD DROPPING SPIDER (ORNITHOS- CATOIDES) IN JOHOR.

Among the large number of curious and interesting spiders in the Malayan region, few are more remarkable than the *Ornithoscatoides*, which is so coloured as to exactly mimic a piece

of bird's-dung fallen upon a leaf. This spider was described by H. O. FORBES in his "Wanderings of a Naturalist" and by the Rev. O. PICKARD CAMBRIDGE, in the same work. During a visit to Gunong Panti in Johor, I was pleased to meet with a species apparently of this genus, which was engaged in sucking the juice of a red bug, which it had captured. FORBES describes and figures his species as spinning a thin web upon a leaf to represent the watery portion of the excreta and then lying upon its back on the web to which it holds by some strong spines on the back of its legs, it waits for some incautious butterfly to alight on the supposed bird's dropping, when it immediately secures the prey. The specimen I found had left its web, a thin circular white film on the leaf of a wild plantain, to devour its capture. On comparing it with the descriptions above quoted, I find that, in the colouring of the body and several structural points, the Gunong Panti spider differs from FORBES' *Ornithoscatoides decipiens*, collected in Java and Sumatra, and it is probably a distinct species.

H. N. R.

NOTES ON GALLUS VIOLACEUS.

In the description of *Gallus violaceus* in No. 24 of this Journal page 167 3rd line from foot of page for 'shaded' read 'shafted'

„ 168 1st line „ do. „ do.

„ 168 8th line „ 'brown' „ 'horn.'

Two more specimens (both males) of this bird have recently come under my notice. They were in the possession of a native animal dealer in Singapore but he could not give me any definite information as to where they came from. He said he thought they came from Java but was not certain and it is far more probable that they come from further east.

H. J. K.